

MA (MIN) AND MA (THEOL) UNIT OUTLINES

The following units have been approved by the Academic Board. Interested candidates should note that other units may be approved subsequent to the printing of this Handbook. For a timetable of individual college offerings, please consult the colleges directly.

LANGUAGES (LA)

LA710 Intermediate Greek

Pre-requisite: LA004, NT301/501 & 302/502 or equivalent. Students who have already completed either LA410 or LA610 (or an equivalent unit elsewhere) cannot take this unit.

At the end of the unit, candidates should be able to use grammatically and accentually correct Greek forms; accurately translate unusual grammatical forms and their exceptions; explain the issues of exegesis and exegetical method at an advanced level; and relate biblical words and concepts to their wider usage in non-NT literature.

LA720 Reading Arabic Texts

This unit serves as an introduction to Classical Arabic and its literary corpus. Primary emphasis is given to the Qur'anic text. Related Arab-Islamic source materials – Qur'anic commentary, the biography of the Prophet (Sirah), and the Traditions of the Prophet (Hadith) – are also examined. The unit is intended for postgraduate students in Islamic Studies who want to master reading skills in Arabic for research in classical Arabic texts. No prior knowledge of Arabic morphology and syntax is required. However, it will be assumed that students are familiar with the Arabic alphabet at the commencement of the unit.

LA725 Reading Arabic Extension

(Pre-requisite: LA720 or equivalent)

This unit serves as a post-introductory study of Classical Arabic and its literary corpus. Primary emphasis is given to the Qur'anic text. Related Arab-Islamic source materials – Qur'anic commentary, the biography of the Prophet (Sirah), and the Traditions of the Prophet (Hadith) – are also examined. The unit is intended for postgraduate students in Islamic Studies who want to master reading skills in Arabic for research in classical Arabic texts. Some prior study of Arabic morphology and syntax is required.

OLD TESTAMENT (OT)

OT752 Current Issues in Old Testament Theology

This unit seeks to investigate the variety of approaches, including evangelical approaches to Old Testament theology, give students a critical appreciation of the strengths, weaknesses and implications of the various approaches to Old Testament theology, bring a critically developed framework to study key themes in the Old

Testament, enable students to integrate Old Testament theology with their Christian ministry.

OT756 Literary and Theological Aspects of the Joseph Narratives (Genesis 37-50)

The unit seeks to focus on the exegesis of the English text of Genesis 37-50, set in the broader context of the Patriarchal narratives. A detailed study of the text will comprise just over half the unit. Consideration will then be given to a variety of critical approaches to the Joseph narrative with a particular focus on the way in which literary aspects of the text can inform our understanding. Such topics as characterisation, plot, theme and literary artistry will be explored. Another major component of the unit is a study of the theological motifs and issues in Genesis 37-50. Finally, the unit will examine how the Joseph narrative can be applied by contemporary Christians.

OT758 Reading & Believing: Hermeneutics & Genesis 1-3

At the end of the unit, candidates should be able to demonstrate an understanding of major issues and ideas in hermeneutics, with particular reference to the exegesis of Genesis 1-3 and its use as Christian Scripture; articulate a coherent approach to the interpretation of Scripture and its use in Christian ministry, with particular reference to Genesis 1-3; engage exegetically and theologically with the text of Genesis 1-3; demonstrate an awareness of practical and theoretical issues that arise in the use of Genesis 1-3 in preaching, teaching and ethical reflection in Christian ministry.

OT761 Preaching Old Testament Narrative

This unit will discuss the place of narrative criticism within biblical studies; evaluate the significance of narrative critical tools in understanding narrative texts; debate key hermeneutical and theological issues raised by narrative approaches to the Bible; discern the impact of narrative approaches on understanding the nature of the canon; utilise sound principles in applying the meaning and message of Old Testament narrative to today's world.

OT762 Interpreting Daniel for Today

A look at the key issues in distinguishing the historical setting and purpose of stories and visions in the book of Daniel. The unit will allow students to debate the nature and origins of wisdom and apocalyptic, and demonstrate an awareness of the literary character of the Daniel texts.

OT763 Biblical & Ministry Perspectives on Prayer

This unit aims to guide students in their understanding of critical issues relating to the presentation of the phenomenon of prayer in the Bible; to help students examine a major issue with respect to prayer from a biblical perspective; and to reflect critically on the significance of prayer in Christian life and ministry.

OT765 Understanding & Preaching Isaiah

The aim of this unit is to enhance the ability of the students to understand the book of Isaiah through a fresh literary and theological study of it in the light of new canonical/literary approaches, and the ability of students to engage with the hermeneutical and homiletic task of proclaiming this.

OT766 Old Testament Foundations for Mission

The unit aims to enable students to have assessed the possibility, validity and potential of developing a missiological perspective on biblical hermeneutics, with particular focus on Christian reading of the Hebrew scriptures; have explored several major theological components in the Old Testament worldview which have formed the presuppositional base for Christian mission; be able to articulate the ways in which the New Testament concept and practice of mission, to both Jew and Gentile, were shaped by a messianic and missiological reading of the Hebrew scriptures in relation to Jesus of Nazareth; appreciate the relevance of the Old Testament to historical and contemporary issues facing Christian mission; and be committed to a more holistic reading of the Bible in which the mission of God for the whole creation offers an integrative hermeneutic of both testaments.

OT770 Interpreting Kings

The purpose of the unit is to give students an in-depth exposure to the content and themes of Kings so as to enhance their ability to use it in preaching and teaching.

OT774 Preaching Psalms

This unit aims to describe how the book editorially fits together and its purpose as a whole within the Canon; identify the main theological interests of the book; differentiate between Psalm types and their process of development; interpret the Psalms according to the rules and patterns of Hebrew poetry and the nature and use of imagery; discern the topic and life setting of individual Psalms; and enable students to preach on the Psalms with confidence, exegetical integrity and practical application.

OT775 Using the Old Testament in Christian Ethics

This unit will enable students to discuss problems and issues in using the Old Testament as Christian Scripture, with particular reference to Christian ethics; integrate key components of Christian ethical theory into the student's use of the Old Testament; develop an integrated approach to using the OT in Christian ethics which incorporates an understanding of the 'shape' of OT ethics, major themes in OT ethics, key OT texts which relate to issues in Christian ethics, and theoretical and hermeneutical issues related to bringing the OT to bear on Christian ethics; and apply key OT texts and themes to practical issues in Christian ethics, with a particular focus on their relevance to pastoral ministry.

OT783 Interpreting Deuteronomy

This unit seeks to equip the student with better exegetical skills, greater knowledge and understanding of critical and interpretive issues, ability in forming

reasoned views on critical and debated matters, a more thoughtful biblical theology, and an ability to use Deuteronomy in pastoral ministry of some sort. All of this is to be done in a context of encouraging students to let the text of Deuteronomy address them personally and spiritually.

NEW TESTAMENT (NT)**NT745 Life and Times of Jesus: Study Tour**

The purpose of the unit is to give students a unique in-depth exposure to the historical background and geographical setting of the life and times of Jesus so as to enhance understanding of the Gospels.

NT751 Pastoral Leadership in Time of Conflict: Studies in 1, 2, 3 John

In this unit candidates learn to appreciate the 1, 2, 3 John as a resource for pastoral ministry; develop responsible ways of using the text of 1, 2, 3 John in pastoral ministry; recognise the contribution of recent scholarly work to an understanding of 1, 2, 3 John for use in pastoral ministry; and rethink the connections between tradition and the Spirit, the bases of Christian assurance, and the boundaries of love in the Christian community.

NT752 The Book of Revelation and Pastoral Issues Today

At the end of the unit student should be able to describe the context of the Book of Revelation, its basis in first century church experience and its relevance to the church age, explain the Old Testament background to the imagery and theology of the book, outline the Christology within the elevated doctrine of God that the book displays, and apply insights gathered to their preaching, teaching, pastoral and/or worship-leading ministry.

NT755 The Message of Hebrews

This unit will provide students with an example of how the author of Hebrews met the needs of his day, providing his readers with a reasoned basis for faith. It will present students with a worldview that will enable them to articulate a message of hope in the midst of uncertainties and insecurities.

NT760 The Message of James

At the end of the unit, candidates should be able to evaluate recent research on James and his role in early Christianity; demonstrate an understanding of the literary character of the letter of James; show exegetical competence in analysing and interpreting the text of James; analyse key themes of the letter of James; synthesise the theological contribution of James with other writers (especially Paul) in the New Testament; and develop homiletical outlines and application showing how James speaks to matters of current interest.

NT761 Ministry, Order & Status and the Pauline Tradition

This unit brings together insights from the social sciences and theology and thus seeks to provide an integrated understanding of the issues of ministry, order and status as they are presented in the New Testament and Patristic documents. This in turn provides for creative dialogue and transfer of learning between professionals working predominantly with the social sciences and those whose primary discipline is theology. The 21st century church (especially in the cultural West) in all of its forms is facing significant questions about the role of order and authority, the nature of ministry and the place of status. Informed dialogue between Christian professionals will provide healthier outcomes and diminish possibilities of abusive structures as churches struggle to find corporate forms which enhance their community life and mission.

NT762 New Testament Theology

At the end of the unit candidates should be able to understand issues involved in and approaches to New Testament theology; have thought through and be able to articulate their own approach; be able to make critically aware connections between the New Testament and contemporary issues

NT764 Narrative and Theology in the Gospel of Luke

The overall aim of this unit is to understand and appreciate how the Gospel of Luke uses narrative to communicate its theological message.

NT767 Worthy of Our Calling: Studies in Ephesians

Students will be able to articulate Ephesians' message of spiritual blessings in Christ and life in Christ; evaluate the contribution of recent scholarly work to an understanding of Ephesians; understand the significance of Ephesians for pastoral ministry; and "walk in Christ" in a more worthy manner through the Spirit's ministry in their own lives.

NT769 Christology and Conduct: Studies in Colossians

At the end of the unit, candidates should be able to demonstrate the skills of advanced New Testament exegesis, with special reference to the task of moving from text to theology to exposition; exhibit a knowledge of the social and religious milieu of first-century Judaism that gave rise to the Colossian error; critically discuss historical and current interpretations of the Colossian error; and understand the inter-relationship of paraenesis and doctrine within the epistle and its implications for preaching.

NT773 Theological Themes in Luke-Acts

At the end of the unit, candidates should be able to demonstrate the indebtedness of Lukan writings to Old Covenant motifs; identify the interplay of various theological concerns; interpret theologically Luke's various purposes in writing two volumes, particularly those pertaining to the church in mission and

community life; critically evaluate the use of popular spiritualities and ecclesiologies of Luke/Acts; and apply these particulars of Lukan theology to key issues of ministry and missional significance today: witness, hospitality, evangelism, servant leadership, and the city and the powers.

NT778 Hermeneutics, Theology, and the Book of Acts

This unit aims to help students evaluate historical and current approaches to determining the theology of Acts; demonstrate methodological awareness in deriving theology from the narrative of Acts; distinguish the main themes of Lukan theology; and correlate selected passages and twenty first century ministry issues within the framework of Lukan theology.

NT781 A Ministry in Crisis: Studies in 2 Corinthians

At the end of this unit the students should be able to appreciate 2 Corinthians as a resource for pastoral ministry; use the text of 2 Corinthians responsibly in pastoral ministry; recognise the contribution of recent scholarly work to an understanding of 2 Corinthians for use in pastoral ministry; and understand the connections between weakness and power in Christian ministry, and recognise the marks of authentic Christian ministry.

NT784 Life, Liberty & the Spirit: Studies in Galatians

The aim of this unit is for students to acquire an understanding of the way the material in Galatians relates to the historical crisis which called it forth; to gain an appreciation of the contribution of recent studies to an understanding of Galatians; to develop greater exegetical competence by a detailed study of the text of Galatians; to distil what may be learned about Paul's understanding of the law and justification from his response to the Galatian crisis; and to gain an appreciation of the relevance of Paul's teaching on the law and justification for Christian living today.

NT785 Postmodernity & Imagination: Interpreting, Constructing, and Communicating Parables

At the successful completion of this unit, candidates should be able to analyse the significant features of postmodernity, especially with respect to epistemology; assess postmodern hermeneutical models, especially the reader orientated approaches; appreciate the value of story as a tool of communication in a postmodern setting; recognise the various stages in the history of parable interpretation; engage "in depth" several of the major narrative parables in Luke's Gospel; and assess options for communicating these parables in a postmodern environment

THEOLOGY (TH)**TH751 The Theology of Augustine**

The purpose of this unit is to assist candidates to develop an understanding of the contribution of Augustine to Christian thought in his context and the implications of this for contemporary Christian thought.

TH752 Evangelicalism: its Nature, Spirituality and Significance

This unit explores the contribution of evangelicals to the church and the nations. The student will come to understanding and appreciation of the nature of evangelicalism; the history and significance of evangelicalism; the relationship of evangelicalism to other traditions/denominations, fundamentalism, the pentecostal/charismatic movement.

TH753 Doctrine of the Holy Spirit

At the end of the unit, candidates should be able to examine the theology of the Holy Spirit from a narrative perspective in dialogue with some of the important theologians of the past and present; apply the theology of the Holy Spirit to some of the issues agitating the contemporary churches; and think theologically and practically about the Holy Spirit.

TH754 20th Century Theologians

At the end of the unit the student should be able to recognize the different methodologies, terminology and themes of modern theologians; to represent the distinctive positions of these four theologians from first-hand knowledge of their writings; and to explain the contemporary implications of these four theologians for the Christian churches.

TH755 Theological Models of Ministry

At the end of the unit candidates should be able to articulate the biblical and theological foundations for Christian ministry; understand their own practice of ministry in the light of these theological foundations; and demonstrate an ability to articulate and evaluate models of ministry.

TH756 Scottish Covenant Theology

The aims of this unit are to introduce students to the history and development of covenant theology, especially in its Scottish context; to make students aware of the various strands of Reformed theology, stemming from the Reformation, of which covenant theology is one; and to encourage students to think critically and to deal objectively and sympathetically with various viewpoints.

TH757 Theology & Practice of Expository Preaching

This unit will enable students to summarise different approaches to the theology of preaching in the history of the church; construct a theology of expository preaching that responds to the challenges facing contemporary theologians of preaching; respond to contemporary challenges to the practice of expository preaching; and compose sermons that are faithful to the biblical text, sensitive to the contemporary cultural milieu and relevant to the audience.

TH760 Protestant Creeds

The purpose of this unit is to introduce students to the major creeds, confessions and catechisms of the Protestant (Reformed, Lutheran, Anglican) churches of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, in the context

of the wider social, political, pedagogical, and theological turbulence of the time. Particular attention will be given to theological developments during this period, to pastoral and ecclesiastical exigencies of the times, and to the function of creeds in the church.

TH761 Trinitarian Thought: the God Worshipped in Community

At the end of the unit, candidates should be able to appraise contemporary trends in Trinitarian theology; identify the impact of contemporary Trinitarian thought on various aspects of Christian ministry in the church, such as pastoral, leadership and professional roles; modify their own lives and ministry practices to align with Trinitarian life; and generate guiding principles for genuine Trinitarian engagement with the world.

TH764 Theology for Tomorrow's Church

At the end of the unit candidates should be familiar with contemporary understandings and assumptions about the nature of the Church, its life and mission; be able to analyse and critique the theological principles guiding these assumptions; and develop theological and biblical principles for guiding the church towards an effective and contemporary life and ministry.

TH765 Meanings of the Atonement

At the end of the unit the students should be able to identify the New Testament metaphors that are applied to the work of Christ on the Cross, explain the origins of these metaphors in Graeco-Roman society, the Old Testament and Judaism, and their development in the history of the Church into theories of the Atonement, evaluate connections between particular metaphors and particular needs as experienced and expressed in the realities of human diversity, formulate principles for applying metaphors, old and new, to diverse contexts.

TH769 Qur'anic and Post Qur'anic Interpretation of Biblical Themes

See EM769

TH782 The Trinity: Community in the Life and Witness of the Church

At the end of the unit, candidates should be able to describe the rich Biblical foundation out of which the doctrine of the Trinity arose; explain the historical development of the doctrine of the Trinity; discuss the meaning and significance of key Trinitarian terms used by ancient and modern theologians; evaluate the major formulations of the doctrine; demonstrate the impact such understandings have on other doctrines and practices; and relate the doctrine to the life, ministry and witness of the Church.

TH783 Justification by Faith

This unit looks at the exegesis of key biblical texts and examination of the relationship between such themes as: justification and salvation history, the nature of righteousness, the place of the law, and the role of works in the final judgment. It will examine the historical development of the doctrine of justification in Augustine, the medieval period, Luther, Calvin,

Westminster, Trent, Baxter, Wesley, Barth and contemporary issues such as the Lordship-Salvation controversy. The unit will also focus on the pastoral out-working of the doctrine of justification by faith and its impact on various aspects of the Christian life and ministry.

TH785 Church and Ministry: Reformed Understanding and Practice

This unit aims to assist students to develop in their role as pastor-theologians serving churches from the Reformed tradition.

CHURCH HISTORY (CH)

CH747 Lessons from the Reformation Today

At the end of the unit, candidates should be able to identify the important relationships that existed between the "Renaissance" and the Protestant Reformation; describe the background of Protestant Reformation in European church history; compare and contrast the commonalities and differences in the theological thought of the leading Protestant Reformers, including the Anabaptists, and demonstrate the ongoing relevance of their respective positions for the ministries of the local church; communicate the continuities between the Protestant Reformation and the mission of Evangelical Christians today in the context of the local church; and argue the case for the Evangelical faith in the context of charges made against Evangelicals in today's cultural and ecclesiological contexts.

CH751 The Theology of Augustine

The purpose of this unit is to assist candidates to develop an understanding of the contribution of Augustine to Christian thought in his context and the implications of this for contemporary Christian thought.

CH752 The Life, Times and Legacy of a Significant Figure from the Story of the Church

This unit is designed to allow candidates to read and reflect on key texts and teachings of a significant person in the story of the church, to familiarise the student with the historical and intellectual context of that person and to critically assess the legacy of that person to the church in their own time and the church in general.

CH756 Issues in Australian Presbyterian History

The purpose of this unit is to assist candidates to develop an understanding of the historical factors which shaped the contemporary Presbyterian Church of Australia, particularly for those preparing for leadership roles in this church.

CH757 Scottish Covenant Theology

See TH756

CH758/PC758 Reformation, Restoration & Renewal

At the end of the unit, candidates should be able to describe the doctrine of the church for the Magisterial, Gathered and Spirit-led churches in light of their historical contexts; critically assess the positions of the

Magisterial, Gathered and Spirit-led churches with regard to their hermeneutics, definition of the church, polity and, church and state relations; analyse the areas of continuity, discontinuity and contribution from the 16th and 17th century ecclesiologies in ecclesiologies from the late 20th century; and evaluate the influence of Post-Christendom, Post-denominational, and Postmodern worldviews on late 20th century ecclesiologies.

CH759 Denominational History

Upon the successful completion of this unit, students should be able to evaluate the contributions of the major people and issues involved in the development of the chosen denomination, with a view to a better understanding of the contemporary church's situation; analyse the historical factors which have contributed to the denomination's doctrine and praxis; attain good facility in the study of primary historical documents; and evaluate historically principles of church conduct and leadership, and to indicate their appropriate application to the contemporary church.

CH760 Protestant Creeds

The purpose of this unit is to introduce students to the major creeds, confessions and catechisms of the Protestant (Reformed, Lutheran, Anglican) churches of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, in the context of the wider social, political, pedagogical, and theological turbulence of the time. Particular attention will be given to theological developments during this period, to pastoral and ecclesiastical exigencies of the times, and to the function of creeds in the church.

CH761 The Westminster Confession in the Presbyterian Church of Australia

At the end of the unit, students should be able to articulate a clear understanding of the Westminster Confession in its 17th C context, understand the confessional position of the Presbyterian Church of Australia in relation to the Westminster Confession, and formulate their own theological understanding in relation to the confessional position of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

CH781 Islam: History and Institutions

This unit will be the foundation unit of a core of four units about Islamic history, culture or theology that will form a major sequence of four units in a comparative religion vein suitable for MA(Min/Theol) or MTh. This and the others will make a contribution to equipping pastors and educators with a depth of understanding of the Islamic phenomenon in a range of cultural settings including our own context and a respectful yet penetrating level of theological and cultural analysis.

PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS (PE)

PE752 Theories of Ethics and their Implications for Christians in a Postmodern World

The unit seeks to review the traditional theories of ethics and to establish and develop points of connection

between those theories and Christian living in a postmodern context.

PE753 Bio-Ethics

At the end of the unit students should be able to recognise bioethical issues in their scientific, theological and ethical forms; think critically about bioethical issues by drawing on a range of evidence; present a Christian perspective using biblical, theological and ethical arguments; and evaluate alternative viewpoints.

PE754 Apologetics for Post Modern Times

This unit aims to provide an understanding of a rational and responsible defence of the Christian truth-claim for post-modern times.

PE756 Christian Social Ethics

This unit enables students to draw discerningly upon Christian social ethical traditions in dialogue with other disciplines in application to their ordained or other ministries/work roles. It seeks to provide students with an array of Christian resources for cultural understanding and accomplishing social change that will help move them and the people of God beyond its privatisation and passivity in much of the Christian West.

PE775 Using the Old Testament in Christian Ethics

See OT775

EVANGELISM & MISSIOLOGY (EM)

EM719 Religions of the World in Contemporary Society

This unit assists students to gain an appreciation of the rich Christian and other religious traditions which have shaped their own lives and the lives of others in the Australian and global community. It develops competency in understanding the Australian and global religious context and the scholarly study of religion. It engages in unbiased reflection on the faith traditions of the world community. It applies a theological framework to the challenge of pluralism in the modern Christian context.

EM752 Ministry in Culturally Diverse Teams

This unit aims to explore the role of culturally diverse teams in Christian ministry in churches, missions, and Christian agencies. Beginning with theological and missiological principles for ministry in community, the unit examines key issues and challenges involved in working in a team, and explores the impact of cultural diversity on how these issues and challenges are addressed. The unit will also provide candidates with practical tools for evaluating the appropriateness and effectiveness of methodologies and principles being used in such team ministry contexts.

EM753 Poverty, Aid, Justice and Development

Students will examine biblical teaching regarding wealth creation and stewardship, explore the reasons for

the continuation of poverty, examine biblical principles of justice, compassion and holism and their implications for the work and mission of the local church, and investigate contemporary examples of the church's response to the ongoing oppression and needs of the poor.

EM758 Cross Cultural Teaching & Learning

This unit examines the biblical imperatives that speak to our understanding of the concepts of teaching and learning. Students will discover some of the implications for ministry of research on cross cultural teaching and learning; explore areas such as cognitive style, traditional educational processes, art forms, and social structures, and enable the formulation of culturally appropriate structures and programs for the effective teaching of biblical associated material.

EM759 Cultural Anthropology for Christian Ministry

This unit aims to give students a thorough critical understanding of cultural anthropology as a contributing discipline within the field of missiology; an understanding of the concept of culture, particularly as it relates to social organisation, economic, political and legal systems, worldview, and religion; an understanding of the dynamics of culture change, and its relevance to Christian mission and ministry; and the tools to develop a conceptual framework, based on the insights of cultural anthropology and the biblical imperative of mission, for effective communication of the gospel, both in Australia and abroad.

EM760 Developing Trainers to Train Others Across Cultural Boundaries

This unit aims to help students identify the biblical perspectives on the training of trainers, particularly with regard to cultural issues; discuss the core theories of non-formal and adult education and their relevance to cross cultural ministry contexts, including the "Training of Trainer's" concept; draw up a training program so that those receiving the training will be able to train others; complete a training needs assessment and teach others how to conduct such an assessment in their own situation; design and deliver a sequenced training plan, using the Transitional Sequenced Training Model to incorporate cross-cultural instructional methods; and manage an ongoing training of trainers program with effective means of follow-up and reporting.

EM761 Leadership Development in a Cross Cultural Context

This unit aims to research and evaluate the models demonstrated and teaching given on leadership in the Scriptures, identify and examine the cultural factors that impact on the development of effective Christian leaders in a specific culture, develop an understanding of the biblical concept of servant leadership, and provide the tools needed to assess leadership needs and respond to them with a culturally sensitive development program.

EM762 The Local Church & Global Mission

This unit aims to review and integrate the teaching of the Old and New Testaments on the role of the people of God in the world, identify and discuss the global issues that confront the church at the close of the twentieth century; evaluate the responses of the Christian church to the global issues and the biblical mandate, consider the place of cross cultural mission within the total ministry responsibility and program of the local church, and present a broad range of practical steps that a local church can implement in order to develop a global vision and an effective involvement in the missionary task.

EM766 Old Testament Foundations for Mission

See OT766

EM768 Perspectives on Islamic Feminism

Feminist issues within Islam are often neglected ethnographically but provide a significant contemporary impetus for change towards openness and justice within the world Islamic community. It is imperative that Christian cultural students come to grips with these movements and moments.

EM769 Qur'anic and Post Qur'anic Interpretation of Biblical Themes

This unit provides students with the disciplines needed to faithfully engage the theological resources of their own faith in a constructive discourse of another faith tradition, in this case 'Islam', a tradition which shares many similar theological themes to the Christian faith at a surface level. At the same time this discourse requires candidates to develop the capacity to understand how their own sources of their faith are interpreted by another tradition.

EM771 The Church and Its Mission in the Post Christendom Era

This unit aims to study the nature of post-Christendom in the West and its impact on the church. To study the implications of this cultural movement for key areas of Christian living and ministry. The unit will examine the documentary and practical examples of responses to post-Christendom and its impact on Christian life, theology and ministry with a view to evaluating these responses and beginning to develop a comprehensive and integrated set of principles for ministering in a post-Christendom context.

EM775 Preaching Differing Biblical Genres

This unit aims to help students develop a theology of Biblical preaching; recognise the hermeneutical issues in preaching; apply insights from hermeneutical issues identified to the biblical genres addressed in the course; adapt their preaching in the light of contemporary issues; and demonstrate ability in the practice of preaching.

EM776 Globalisation and its impact on ministry

At the end of the unit, candidates should be able to describe the nature of globalisation and its current expressions and directions; distinguish the points at which globalisation impacts the church and its mission,

theology and missiology; identify those aspects of hermeneutics and contextualisation that gain significance or demand review in the context of ministry in a globalised world; generate guidelines and possible paradigms for effective Christian ministry in tomorrow's globalised world; and summarise the key issues of globalisation in relation to the life and ministry of a missional church and design a related teaching unit for use in their local church.

EM779 The Church in Australia: Sociological & Cultural Perspectives

This unit provides students with an appreciation of the central problems facing churches in modern/postmodern society and the available tools for conceptualising and forming models for dealing with these problems. This will be achieved through an introduction to sociological thought and the Christian literature analysing Australian society, in addition to the study of major Australian institutions.

EM780 Contextualisation of Theology & Ministry Practice

At the end of the unit the candidates should be able to employ the principles of contextualisation taught and demonstrated in the Scriptures to provide a framework for approaching contextualisation in any specific cultural context; understand the nature and extent of personal cultural myopia that can exist when communicating with people of another culture, and how to respond to it; recognise the elements of a culture that need to be considered in relation to the communication of the gospel and the development of the church within that culture; communicate the gospel across cultural boundaries in a manner that minimizes distortion of meaning or loss of theological integrity; and apply with discernment the principles of contextualisation to a variety of ministry of ecclesiastical structures in specific cultural contexts.

EM781 Islam: History and Institutions

This unit will help to equip pastors and educators with a depth of understanding of the Islamic phenomenon in a range of cultural settings including our own context and a respectful yet penetrating level of theological and cultural analysis.

EM782 Christian Ministry in Islamic Contexts

This unit aims to provide students with an understanding of Islam and Islamic attitudes to Christian doctrine, and to equip students to present the Gospel to Muslims and to follow-up Muslim Background Believers in various contexts.

EM783 Islam in the Modern World

This unit provides students with the disciplines needed to understand and engage with issues surrounding Islam interaction with the modern world, recognising both the complex diversity of Muslims and the key debates taking place within the worldwide Islamic community. The unit will provide opportunities for students to specialise on a particular region of their choosing as they consider how generic matters are realised in specific locations.

EM784 Islam in Southeast Asia: History, Society and Politics

This unit provides students with the disciplines needed to understand and engage with issues surrounding the historical and contemporary manifestations of Islam in Southeast Asia, recognising both the complex diversity of Muslims in that region and the key debates taking place there.

EM788 Leading the Church for Mission in the Twenty First Century

The purpose of this unit is to provide an introduction to contemporary Western culture and the challenges and opportunities it presents in relation to effective Christian ministry and mission. As well as providing such an introduction to culture, mission and ministry, the unit is aimed to enable students to explore how the Gospel might be contextualized in today's world through the renewal of personal spirituality and church life. It aims to help students explore practical ways to facilitate this that are relevant to the emerging culture and grounded in the Bible and the wider Christian tradition. Additionally, it aims to challenge students to consider the relationship between spirituality and the arts, and the impact of New Spirituality in relation to Christian faith and practice.

PASTORAL CHURCH FOCUSED MINISTRY (PC)**PC747 Lessons from the Reformation Today**

See CH747

PC751 Spirituality for Christian Ministry

The unit will look at the nature and function of spirituality and the way new expressions of Christian spirituality arise. Students will learn to evaluate their own spiritual journey and current practices, and to critically reflect on the models of spirituality used in their ministry context.

PC753 Conflict Management Skills for Pastors and Other Leaders of Congregations

Students will learn current theory relevant to interpersonal and intergroup conflict. They will be able to analyse their behaviour in conflicts in their organisations and interpersonal relationships and use this analysis for better managing their interactions with others. Students will increase their skills in planning for/and dealing with interpersonal and intergroup conflict.

PC754 Pastoring in the 21st Century

Upon the successful completion of this unit, students should be able to understand and respond effectively to the challenges of pastoral ministry in the 21st century; evaluate the necessity for change in the church through an understanding of the culture of their ministry context and their own personal philosophy of ministry; adapt strategies for bringing change to their own church context; and establish healthy and intentional strategies to enable them to maintain pastoral integrity and health through the risks and challenges of pastoring in the 21st century.

PC757 The Theology & Practice of Expository Preaching

This unit aims to help the candidates to have a developed theology of Biblical preaching; to recognise the value of Biblical Theology for preaching; to adapt their preaching in the light of contemporary issues; and to demonstrate ability in the practice of preaching.

PC758 Reformation, Restoration and Renewal

See CH758

PC759 Contemporary Biblical Preaching

Upon the successful completion of this unit, students should be able to analyse the diversity of issues that need to be considered by the contemporary biblical preacher; prepare and preach sermons using contemporary preaching structures including inductive, narrative, and interactive styles; prepare and preach sermons in a style that reflects the genre of the biblical literature from which the sermons are derived; and craft sermons in differing styles that communicate with specific contemporary audiences like the unchurched, post-moderns, and men and women.

PC760 A Theology of Church & Ministry for the Twenty First Century

A study of the biblical and theological foundations for a contemporary doctrine of church and ministry, and an exploration of the way of being the church and engaging in ministry in the modern world.

PC761 Leadership and Management in Christian Ministry

This unit enables students to enhance ministerial effectiveness through the development of a theoretical base for understanding the dynamics of the leadership development process, leading the candidates to analyse his or her personal development patterns. It will also familiarise students with tools for a better understanding of personality types and an understanding of the significance of these tools for recruiting, team building, counselling, conflict management, and other interpersonal dynamics, so that they can better manage people.

PC762 Denominational History

See CH759

PC763 Biblical and Ministry Perspectives on Prayer

See OT763

PC764 Preaching Old Testament Narrative

At the end of the unit candidates should be able to apply principles of interpreting Old Testament narrative to Old Testament narrative; demonstrate the interrelatedness of smaller narrative units within large sections of Old Testament narrative; critically evaluate a theocentric approach to interpreting and preaching Old Testament narrative which highlights the character and purposes of God; and construct biblical messages with contemporary application from Old Testament narrative.

PC765 Understanding & Preaching Isaiah

See OT765

PC766 Frameworks for Christian Leadership

Students must have an active involvement in ministry, leadership or management roles with access to organizational leadership influence in order to undertake this unit. The unit will introduce and theologially critique the characteristics of the main schools of thinking on leadership of an organisational nature throughout the twentieth century and beyond, as these are being imported into and impacting upon the structure of church and para-church organisations. This is in distinction to units that focus upon the leader as person and leader-follower relationship in abstract.

PC767 Lifelong Leadership Development

At the end of the unit students should be able to assess and theologially evaluate the key concepts related to personal lifelong leadership development as expressed in Leadership Emergence Theory; analyse lifelong leadership development concepts using biblical, historical and contemporary leader case studies; reflect on personal decision making concerning their leadership focus and clarity; demonstrate intentionality in personal spirituality formation and development; apply leadership development principles so that these are reproduced in the lives of others; and reflect on issues related to their major role and what legacy they'll leave.

PC768 Church Growth, Health, Dynamics & Strategies

This unit aims to help candidates express a critical understanding of the theology, cite related biblical materials, principles and procedures of Church Growth, and signify their significance for contemporary mission and ministry theory and practice; evaluate and strategise in a specific church or specific mission situation, being able also to identify appropriate models, significant principles and suitable steps for ensuring an improvement in overall effectiveness; discern the nature and impact of cultural and sociological factors on the growth and well-being of a congregation, parish or mission situation; understand contemporary and emerging models of church and mission, and be able to critique such models from a social science and theological perspective.

PC769 Church Systems & Congregational Health

Upon the successful completion of this unit, students should be able to choose leadership styles appropriate to the readiness and maturity of their group; evaluate and enhance the quality of relationships and task performance of their ministry/decision making teams; appreciate the internal tacit cultures within their church, knowing how to expose the value systems and underlying assumptions of their church and its habitual processes; diagnose the systemic and psycho-dynamic health producing or retarding aspects of their church family life; determine their own natural styles for addressing conflict and leadership and be aware of the potentials both for growth and dis-ease of conflictual church cultures; and determine the appropriate social-

scientific, psycho-dynamic or anthropological lenses to interpret their situations and predicaments in ministry with groups.

PC770 The Future of Worship

At the end of the unit candidates should be able to articulate a sophisticated biblical and theological understanding of Christian worship; demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the relationship of worship to contemporary culture; analyse particular forms and structures within the flow of a service of worship; relate their theology of worship to specific individual, ecclesial and cultural contexts.

PC771 Missional Leadership in the 21st Century

The missional church is emerging, calling for a new kind of leader and leadership. This unit explores the distinguishing contours of the missional church revolution as well as the leadership required by it. Major attention will centre on three primary shifts underway: the shift from an internal to an external focus, the shift from program-driven to people development as the core activity of the missional community, and the shift from church-based leadership to apostolic-era leadership.

PC774 Preaching Psalms

See OT774

PC775 Preaching Differing Biblical Genres

See EM775

PC778 Hermeneutics, Theology, and the Book of Acts

See NT778

PC779 Advanced Pastoral Relationships

At the end of the unit candidates should be able to choose suitable, ethical responses in situations requiring relationship skills; analyse church conflict situations and choose appropriate conflict management strategies for particular conflicts; integrate into their pastoral ministry important principles of team ministry; and to establish and develop mentoring relationships that enable the empowerment of mentorees.

PC781 Ministering in a Postmodern Age

This unit aims to help students study the nature of postmodernism and its impact on Christian theology; to study the implications of this cultural movement for key areas of Christian Ministry; and to examine the documentary and practical examples of responses to postmodernism and its impact on Christian life, theology and ministry with a view to developing a comprehensive and integrated set of principles for ministering in a postmodern age.

PC782 Transformation, Renewal and the Agent of Change

In a day where more and more organisational change strategies are available to church and denominational leaders it is vital that these not be introduced to church life without a critical evaluation of their compatibility with an

evangelical ecclesiology. The purpose of this unit is to help support sustainable organisational change through interpersonal effectiveness, pastoral leadership of change and systemic thinking.

PC783 Justification by Faith

See TH783

PC784 Advanced Preaching Skills

A practical exploration of preaching skills to enhance the preaching practice taught in earlier homiletics subjects. This unit is not designed to teach preaching theory. Rather, it builds on previous units and offers skills, experiences and critique in a range of techniques that can be employed to add greater interest to the students' preaching ability.

PC785 Church & Ministry: Reformed Understanding and Practice

See TH785.

PC786 Woundedness & Vulnerability in Pastoral Care

This unit aims to help students understand and appreciate the biblical and theological principles involved in the role of the pastoral carer; to understand the impact of 'servant ministry' on pastoral care; conceptualise the current notions of 'vulnerability' and 'mutuality' through biblical and theological reflection; and to build a biblical model of vulnerability and mutuality based on the ministry of Jesus.

PC787 Leadership and Church Governance

As leadership in many churches increasingly involves the laity, and for those churches that have a congregational base where the involvement of laity in leadership of the church can be of equal or even greater influence than leadership of the clergy, it is relevant that the lay leadership of a church be equally informed about the biblical, theological and historical aspects of their denomination and explore the challenges and tensions that existing models of leadership have where they intersect church governance.

PC788 Theology, Culture and the Mission of the Church: Leading the Church for Mission in the Twenty First Century

The unit is aimed to enable students to explore how the Gospel might be contextualized in today's world through the renewal of personal spirituality and church life. It aims to help students explore practical ways to facilitate this that are relevant to the emerging culture and grounded in the Bible and the wider Christian tradition. Additionally, it aims to challenge students to consider the relationship between spirituality and the arts, and the impact of New Spirituality in relation to Christian faith and practice.

DEVELOPMENTAL MINISTRY (DM)

DM751 Towards a Christian Theory of Education I: Persons & Groups

This unit helps students without a background in theology or education studies to connect Christian faith with an understanding of the nature of education and teaching in Australia. It helps students to develop a critical perspective on the complex nature of education and teaching that might inform choices about, and give direction to, working or effectively participating in state schools, Christian faith-based schools, or other Church based educational settings. It has the potential to empower students to become more critical of the nature of education and schooling and to seek change in their institutions based on clearly articulated Christian principles.

DM753 Towards a Theology of Christian Counselling I: Theological Critique

This unit promotes the integration of Christian faith with one's calling in life in those areas where counselling skills and understanding are required. It brings to bear the rich resources of Biblical Anthropology upon the theory and practice of counselling. The expectation is that the counsellor will become more critically aware and discriminative within the field, through a biblical understanding of humanity and persons. It attempts to balance theoretical and theological issues with an emphasis on practical service and therapy.

DM754 Towards a Theology of Christian Counselling II: Integration of Theory & Practice

This unit promotes commitment to the growth and development of the whole person within a Christian framework. It develops biblical perspectives on an area of vocational relevance (counselling) for many Christian individuals and organisations. It provides a basis for foundational reflection on counselling practice in the light of theological themes. It contributes an integrative perspective on counselling providing the professional layperson the opportunity of bringing together insights from psychology, social work or counselling with those of Biblical Anthropology, as these influence both theory and practice.

DM756 The Theology of Work & the Pastoral Care of Workers

At the end of the unit, candidates should be able to describe biblical views of work against their socio-economic-political background, analyse the distinctive Christian theological approaches to work in their cultural context and as possible models for today, identify the pressures upon workers in the world today (partly through a survey) and develop a strategy to equip Christians for workplace ministry in an educational, church, para-church or workplace setting and competently teach and offer pastoral care in relation to workplace issues.

DM757 Christians and Conflict

No aspect of societal interaction has a mortgage on conflict; it happily traverses all areas of human activity. For Christians seeking skills on how to bring a Christian perspective and commitment to their life, this course offers the ability to develop skills and apply distinctively Christian thinking and approaches to the difficult area of conflict. The unit aims to give students a deeper theological understanding of the nature of conflict and how to respond to it in a Christian and biblical way. This includes contrasting this approach against other secular approaches to conflict that are likely to be encountered in the workforce environment which tend to focus on 'solving the problem' without always addressing the important relational dimensions of the conflict.

DM762 Family Ministry

An exploration of the nature of family life. Historical developments and contemporary views on family in Australia will be evaluated. Biblical insights into the nature and function of family will be highlighted. The nature of family based ministry will then be considered, and effective ministry strategies that aspire to enrich family life will be developed.

DM767 Youth in the Church: Place, Role and Ministry

The place, role and ministry of youth in the church is a challenge to most churches and church leaders; however, positions are often based on preference and tradition, rather than on meaningful biblical and theological reflection. In the light of this, the purpose of the unit is to consider the biblical and theological aspects of youth in the church, in the context of various perspectives and with regard to contemporary challenges, to assist the students in making critical decisions with respect to the place, role and ministry of youth in the church.

DM769 The Pastor's Growth & Development

At the end of the unit candidates should be able to enunciate a theology of persons; articulate a theology of responsible self-care for ministry; demonstrate a good self awareness; identify the emotional hazards that pertain to the mental and spiritual health of a minister; discuss areas of potential personal weaknesses; identify resources for dealing with the problems that arise in ministry; evaluate the quality of personal and family life; and move towards proactive strategies to promote healthy, fruitful long-term ministry.

DM771 Mentoring within Christian Community

The unit aims to help candidates to reflect on the place of mentoring within Christian community; relate the idea of mentoring to their personal lives, and their particular involvement in ministry; and to consider their continuance or commencement in either mentoring or being mentored, in the light of criteria discussed in the unit.

